

## CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1        1.     A method comprising:  
2              applying a flux on a substrate having solder bumps, the flux including at least a  
3     solvent and a water soluble monomer or a water soluble polymer;  
4              placing a die on the substrate; and  
5              reflowing the die in an oven at a reflow temperature to redistribute stress caused  
6     by coefficient thermal expansion (CTE) mismatch between the substrate and the die,  
7     the reflow temperature being higher than a melting point of the polymer.

1        2.     The method of claim 1 wherein applying the flux comprises:  
2              applying the flux including the water soluble polymer being one of a polyacrylic  
3     acid, a polyacrylamide, a polyvinyl alcohol, a starch, and a cellulose.

1        3.     The method of claim 1 wherein applying the flux comprises:  
2              applying the flux including at least an organic solvent and the water soluble  
3     monomer.

1        4.     The method of claim 1 wherein applying the flux comprises:  
2              applying the flux including at least an organic solvent and the water soluble  
3     polymer.

1        5.     The method of claim 1 wherein reflowing the die comprises:  
2              vaporizing the solvent at an increasing reflow temperature;  
3              melting the polymer into polymer liquid; and  
4              removing metal oxide from the solder bumps.

1        6.     The method of claim 5 wherein reflowing the die further comprises:  
2              melting the solder bumps;  
3              forming solder joints from the melted solder bumps;  
4              solidifying the solder joints at a decreasing reflow temperature; and  
5              solidifying the polymer liquid to redistribute the stress.

1        7.     The method of claim 1 wherein reflowing the die comprises:

2        vaporizing the solvent at an increasing reflow temperature;  
3        reacting the monomer to form solid polymer;  
4        melting the solid polymer into polymer liquid; and  
5        removing metal oxide from the solder bumps.

1        8.        The method of claim 7 wherein reflowing the die further comprises:  
2        melting the solder bumps;  
3        forming solder joints from the melted solder bumps;  
4        solidifying the solder joints at a decreasing reflow temperature; and  
5        solidifying the polymer liquid to redistribute the stress.

1        9.        The method of claim 1 further comprising:  
2        de-fluxing the die to remove polymer residue; and  
3        dispensing an underfill material into gap between the die and the substrate.

1        10.      The method of claim 9 wherein de-fluxing comprises:  
2        dissolving the polymer residue by hot water.

1        11.      A method comprising:  
2        mixing a solvent with at least a water soluble monomer or a water soluble  
3        polymer to form a flux; and  
4        applying the flux to a die assembly including a die and a substrate to  
5        redistribute stress caused by coefficient thermal expansion (CTE) mismatch between  
6        the substrate and the die.

1        12.      The method of claim 11 wherein mixing comprises:  
2        mixing the solvent with the water soluble polymer being one of a polyacrylic  
3        acid, a polyacrylamide, a polyvinyl alcohol, a starch, and a cellulose.

1        13.      The method of claim 11 wherein mixing comprises:  
2        mixing an organic solvent and the water soluble monomer.

1        14.      The method of claim 11 wherein mixing comprises:  
2        mixing an organic solvent and the water soluble polymer.

1        15.      The method of claim 11 wherein applying the flux comprises:

2           reflowing the die assembly in an oven at a reflow temperature, the reflow  
3   temperature being higher than a melting point of the polymer.

1           16.     The method of claim 15 wherein reflowing the die assembly comprises:  
2           increasing the reflow temperature to melt the polymer into polymer liquid and  
3   to form solder joints from the solder bumps; and  
4           decreasing the reflow temperature to solidify the solder joints and the polymer  
5   liquid.

1           17.     The method of claim 15 wherein reflowing the die assembly comprises:  
2           increasing the reflow temperature to react the monomer to form solid polymer  
3   and to form solder joints from the solder bumps; the solid polymer being melted into  
4   polymer liquid, and  
5           decreasing the reflow temperature to solidify the solder joints and the polymer  
6   liquid.

1           18.     The method of claim 11 further comprising:  
2           de-fluxing the die assembly to remove polymer residue.

1           19.     The method of claim 18 wherein de-fluxing comprises:  
2           dissolving the polymer residue by hot water.

1           20.     The method of claim 18 further comprising:  
2           dispensing an underfill material into a gap between the die and the substrate.

1           21.     A system comprising:  
2           a flux dispenser to apply a flux on a substrate having solder bumps, the flux  
3   including at least a solvent and a water soluble monomer or a water soluble polymer;  
4           a die placement assembly to place a die on the substrate ; and  
5           a reflow oven to reflow the die at a reflow temperature to redistribute stress  
6   caused by coefficient thermal expansion (CTE) mismatch between the substrate and the  
7   die, the reflow temperature being higher than a melting point of the polymer.

1           22.     The system of claim 21 wherein the water soluble polymer is one of a  
2   polyacrylic acid, a polyacrylamide, a polyvinyl alcohol, a starch, and a cellulose.

1           23.   The system of claim 21 wherein the flux includes at least an organic  
2 solvent and the water soluble monomer.

1           24.   The system of claim 21 wherein the flux includes at least an organic  
2 solvent and the water soluble monomer.

1           25.   The system of claim 21 wherein the reflow oven vaporizes the solvent at  
2 an increasing reflow temperature, melts the polymer into polymer liquid, and removes  
3 metal oxide from the solder bumps.

1           26.   The system of claim 25 wherein the reflow oven further melts the solder  
2 bumps, forms solder joints from the melted solder bumps, solidifies the solder joints at  
3 a decreasing reflow temperature, and solidifies the polymer liquid to redistribute the  
4 stress.

1           27.   The system of claim 21 wherein the reflow oven vaporizes the solvent at  
2 an increasing reflow temperature, reacts the monomer to form solid polymer, melts the  
3 solid polymer into polymer liquid, and removes metal oxide from the solder bumps.

1           28.   The system of claim 27 wherein the reflow oven further melts the solder  
2 bumps, forms solder joints from the melted solder bumps, solidifies the solder joints at  
3 a decreasing reflow temperature, and solidifies the polymer liquid to redistribute the  
4 stress.

1           29.   The system of claim 21 further comprising:  
2           a de-fluxing dispenser to de-flux the die to remove polymer residue; and  
3           an underfill dispenser to dispense an underfill material into a gap between the  
4 die and the substrate.

1           30.   The system of claim 21 wherein the de-flux dispenser dissolves the  
2 polymer residue by hot water.